

THE DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN LANGUAGES & STUDIES PRESENTS
Fall 2014 Lecture Series | Community After Europe

KAREN FELDMAN

Big Stories: Heidegger, Arendt, and the Plot of Modernity

Heidegger and Arendt, in different ways, view modernity in terms of large story arcs: the forgetting of being on one hand and the loss of the political on the other. These story arcs, however, make use of classic devices of emplotment. The talk will consider the aesthetic and literary aspects of history in Heidegger and Arendt, with reference to Hayden White, Reinhart Koselleck and other theorists at the intersection of literary theory and historiography. Its focus will be on how, in both Heidegger's and Arendt's historical accounts of modernity, the connections between events are portrayed according to literary conventions that double as theoretical insights.



Karen Feldman is Associate Professor of German at University of California, Berkeley. She is author of *Binding Words: Conscience and Rhetoric in Hobbes, Hegel and Heidegger*, and has published articles on topics in aesthetics and literary theory in journals including *MLN*, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, *Germanic Review*, and in edited volumes.

MONDAY | OCTOBER 20, 2014
4:30 – 6:30 PM
HUMANITIES GATEWAY 1010